

## USD 307 INTRODUCES NEW SUPERINTENDENT



Brian Rowley, building principal for grades 6-12 at Udall Unified School District 463, has been selected by the Ell-Saline Unified School District 307 Board of Education to be its next superintendent. Mr. Rowley, who will begin his new position July 1, replaces current superintendent Jerry Minneman, who is retiring at the end of June.

Before coming to Ell-Saline Mr. Rowley taught Business and Computer Classes in Goessel, Lebo, and Osage City prior to spending four years as Assistant Principal in Abilene, six years as 7-12 Principal at Ellinwood and seven years as 6-12 Principal at Udall. This year is his 23rd year in education.

Mr. Rowley's educational background consists of a Bachelor of Business degree from Washburn University, and a Bachelor's Degree in Secondary Education and a Master's Degree in Educational Administration from Emporia State University. Mr. Rowley received his District Level Certification from Friends University.

Brian and his wife, Becky have been married for 20 years. They have three children: Breckyn is a senior, Brynna is a freshman and Brogan is a fifth grader. Brian enjoys spending his free time watching his kids play volleyball, basketball and showing horses.

Mr. Rowley said, "I am honored to be the new Ell-Saline superintendent and I look forward to working with the students, staff, parents and patrons of USD 307."

### March 12 Board Meeting Report

All board members were present. All action was approved on a 7-0 vote unless noted otherwise.

### 7:00 P.M. REGULAR MEETING

#### V. REPORTS

BOE – None

Mrs. Sprinkle – Her report included updates on: state assessments; progress being made on preschool programming for next year; staff professional development activities; KESA process; community service projects; and student activities.

Mr. Wilson – His report included updates on: Dane Hanson Scholarship recipients; winter and spring sports; BPA students going to nationals; Mrs. Werner sponsoring MS Quiz Bowl; and FFA and NHS Banquets.

Mr. Minneman – His report included updates on: KSDE audit resulting in 1.9 additional Student Weighted Enrollment; Staff Recognition Luncheon being on May 17 at 12:00 noon at the elementary school; action picking up in Topeka but still no education bills passed; read one thank you note; and a list of dates that he will be attending meetings out of the district before the next meeting.

#### VI. BUSINESS

- A. Approve Classified Position—Yvette Rademaker was approved as a MS/HS cook.
- B. Act on Principals' Contracts—Mrs. Sprinkle's and Mr. Wilson's contracts were both extended through June of 2020 keeping them on 2-year contracts.
- C. Accept Gifts—The following gifts were accepted: \$2,000 from the Verla Nesbitt Joscelyn Foundation and \$2,000.00 from an anonymous donor. Both of these are to help with implementing a preschool program next fall.
- D. Approve Student Out-of-State Travel—The following three trips were approved: BPA to Dallas; HS Band to Dallas; and senior class to Branson.
- E. Board Policy – 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading—The policy was approved as presented.
- F. Approve Teacher Transfer—It was approved for Amber Fouard to transfer from a 1<sup>st</sup> Grade teaching position to the Preschool teaching position.

There were three Executive Sessions (Student Matter, Personnel, Negotiations).

The meeting adjourned at 7:13 p.m.

## FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT’S DESK

As I sit here with just a few days of March left, it appears that it is going to go out like a lamb rather than a lion! The much needed moisture that we have received has been greatly appreciated and even more would be welcomed. As a result of the moisture the wheat fields are looking better and there is more optimism looking forward to the harvest in about three months. Trees are leafing out and everyday more flowers are bringing color to the world. Spring is definitely upon us. Something we could use, though, is much needed moisture to keep things going!

Spring time in school district offices is normally one of the most anxious times of the school year because of the uncertainty of what legislation will be passed that will impact them. There are still many votes to be taken and I am hopeful that the same bipartisan effort of working together that started last year will continue throughout this session. With so many challenges ahead of them yet this year it is extremely important that we communicate with them and support them in their efforts.

This month I will share with you some items that **“Give me hope”** and some items that **“Give me concern.”**

### Give me hope—

- **Passage of federal spending bill.** Lawmakers rejected US Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos’ and President Trump’s proposal of a \$250M private school “choice” initiative and a \$1B “school portability” plan both of which would have taken dollars from public K-12 education. Title II, which was earmarked for elimination, was “flat funded” and Title IV that was also scheduled for elimination instead received a \$1B increase. \$86M was included for impact aid payments which is for districts that lose local property tax revenue because of military bases such as the Bombing Range that is in our district.
- **Findings of recent school funding study.** The results of the recently completed study that was authorized by the Kansas conservative legislative leadership in an effort to prove that Kansas was spending enough on K-12 education confirmed again what many of us have known for several years. Many more dollars, between \$450M to \$2.1B additional dollars are needed to meet the needs of the students and the education goals of the state. The study also showed that Kansas school districts are 96% efficient with their dollars which is one of the highest rates of efficiency in the entire country. Kansas districts are managing their budgets wisely.
- **State Revenues.** These are up \$270M for the first 8 months of this fiscal year. The action taken in last year’s legislative session of restoring some of the taxes that had been cut in previous years is starting to stabilize the State’s budget but there is still a long way to go before it is finally solid.

### Give me concern—

- **Lowering goals rather than providing needed funding.** With the school funding study not providing the conservative legislative leadership with the information on current funding they were looking for, there is now talk about lowering the state’s educational goals so that they will match up with the current level of funding.
- **Arming teachers as the answer to gun violence in schools.** There is currently legislation (HB 2789 and SB 454) in both chambers in Topeka that would basically require districts to have teachers be armed. HB 2789 even goes so far as to say “a school district could be found negligent if it did not authorize any employee of such school district, other than school security officers, to carry concealed handguns in buildings operated by such district pursuant to the state concealed carry law”. I don’t believe this is a role we want to place on our teachers.

Even with the increase in state revenue, I don’t see any way that K-12 public education will receive an increase of even the lower estimate of \$450M next year that is indicated in the study’s results. What I do see, though, is hope. Hope for the future. Hope that our legislature will continue to work together to find a realistic, workable phase-in over just a few short years of the additional funding. Hope that in the coming years the State will be on solid financial footing and will be able to increase school funding to the level that students are able to attain the higher goals. With increased funding, we will be able to provide the additional resources and security measures for our students to continue to learn in a safe, secure environment.

Spring time in school buildings also is one of the most rewarding times of the school year. This year is already proving to be no different. This is the time of year when the culmination of one year’s, or several years’, worth of effort and accomplishment is recognized. In many activities our students have continued to represent themselves and our school in a very positive manner. Our middle school recently competed in the Heart of America League music festival where the hard work of our students was rewarded by earning many I and II ratings! The MS Quiz Bowl teams have competed well in the contests that they have participated in. The entire high school team and two middle school students qualified for the State Science Olympiad competition that will be held in Wichita in April. Seven of our Business Professionals of America students qualified for the national competition to be held in May in Dallas. The Forensics students continue to compete well in their tournaments and have already qualified for the State competition. We have large numbers of students participating in our spring sports of middle school and high school track as well as high school softball and baseball. As the seniors look forward to next year and pursuing their goals, various scholarships have been announced, with more to come that will help them in their endeavors.

Thank you for your continued trust and confidence in the Ell-Saline USD 307 school district. You can be assured that your children are receiving a quality education. Please call or stop in so we can visit about the many good things going on in your district.



## EASTER EGG HUNT

When: March 30, 2018

Where: Brookville City Park-Brookville, KS

Starting at 10:00 a.m.

Ages 0—10

Candy and Prizes will be available

Sponsored by the  
Ell-Saline FFA



## ELL-SALINE FFA GREENHOUSE

Plants available starting April 16th.

May start earlier if you want to buy in volumes.

Please contact Ell-Saline High School @ 785-225-6633

or Mr. Weis @ 785-820-1121

### Vegetables and Flowers

Tomatoes, Peppers, Egg Plant, Geraniums, Petunias,  
Rose Moss, Coleus, Spikes, Asparagus Ferns,  
and others



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## Kindergarten ROUNDUP

**WEDNESDAY  
APRIL 25, 2018**

If you have a child who will be 5 years old before August 31, 2018, please contact Ell-Saline Elementary School for details (785) 827-8891 or e-mail Anita at [anita.bird@ellsaline.org](mailto:anita.bird@ellsaline.org). You can also go online to [www.ellsaline.org](http://www.ellsaline.org) for information and to print off the Kindergarten Round Up Form.

## MARCH STUDENT OF THE MONTH



The March High School Student of the month is junior Blake Bell. Blake is the son of Jason and Kris Bell, and the brother of Colton Bell. In school, Blake is involved in FFA. In the community, he is active in his 4-H club. Outside of school, he raises and exhibits poultry, dairy cattle, and swine. He also enjoys woodworking, fishing, and hunting. After high school, Blake plans to attend college and obtain a Poultry Science degree with a minor in Genetics. Way to go, Blake!

The March Middle School Student of the month is Jayce Cayce. Jayce is the daughter of Paula Cayce, and the sister of Scott, Sarah, Nick, Kaitlyn, Timothy, and Whittney. In school, Jayce is involved in track and FCCLA. In her spare time, she enjoys drawing, gymnastics, and reading. After high school, she is undecided on a college but would like to be a counselor. Great job Jayce!



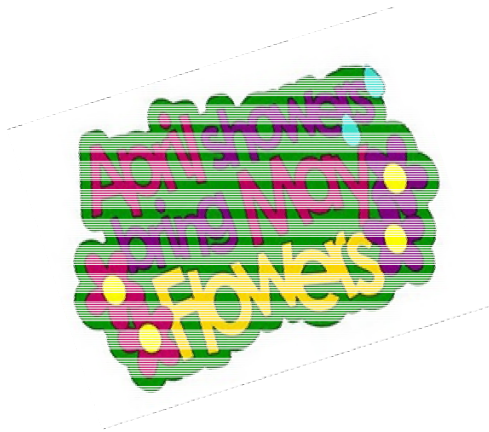
Ell-Saline USD 307

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(785) 225-6813

Middle/High School  
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Brookville, KS 67425-0097  
(785) 225-6633

Elementary School  
1757 N. Halstead Rd.  
Salina, KS 67401  
(785) 827-8891

Return Service Requested



An Equal Employment/Educational Opportunity Agency

The Ell-Saline U.S.D. 307 Board of Education does not discriminate on the basis of sex, race, color, national origin, handicap or age in admission or access to, or treatment in, its programs or activities. Any questions regarding in the board’s compliance with Title VI, Title IX, or Section 504 may be directed to the Title IX coordinator, who can be reached at (785) 225-6813, 412 E. Anderson, P.O. Box 157, Brookville, KS 67425, or to the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, U.S. Department of Education.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Check for changes at [www.ellsaline.org](http://www.ellsaline.org)

Apr. 1	HAPPY EASTER	Apr. 18	9:00 HS Art @ FHSU
Apr. 2	No School/Easter Break	Apr. 19	4:00 MS TR @ Marion
Apr. 3	MS Quiz Bowl @ Trinity Catholic	Apr. 20	No ESE After School
Apr. 3	4:30 HS SB Sterling @ ES	Apr. 20	3:00 HS SB/BSB Canton/Galva @ ES
Apr. 4	HOA HS Art Festival @ Inman	Apr. 20	3:00 HS TR @ Lincoln
Apr. 4	FFA Business/Agronomy/Horse	Apr. 21	Regional Speech and Drama
Apr. 5	4:00 MS TR @ Herington	Apr. 21	HS JV BSB @ Moundridge
Apr. 5	6th Grade Band Contest @ ESE	Apr. 23	3:00 HS JV TR @ Tescott
Apr. 6	No ESE After School	Apr. 23	4:00 HS JV BSB Bennington @ ES
Apr. 6	3:00 HS SB/BSB Inman @ ES	Apr. 24	4:30 HS SB Trinity Catholic @ ES
Apr. 6	HS TR @ Bennington	Apr. 25	Administrative Professionals Day
Apr. 9	8:00 HOA Forensics @ Marion	Apr. 25	Last Hour Sports Signing Day
Apr. 9	7:00 BOE Meeting @ DO	Apr. 25	Kindergarten Round-up
Apr. 10	Preschool Day Camp	Apr. 25	NO KINDERGARTEN CLASSES
Apr. 10	3:00 HS TR @ Ellsworth	Apr. 26	3:00 MS TR @ ES
Apr. 10	4:00 HS BSB @ Ellsworth	Apr. 27	No ESE After School
Apr. 11	KSHSAA State Large Group	Apr. 27	9:00 Tech Ed Fair @ FHSU
Apr. 12	4:00 MS TR @ Wakefield	Apr. 27	10:00 HS TR @ Beloit
Apr. 13	No ESE After School	Apr. 27	3:00 HS SB @ Remington
Apr. 13	3:00 HS BSB Sacred Heart @ ES	Apr. 27	4:30 HS BSB @ Remington
Apr. 14	Junior/Senior Prom	Apr. 28	9:30-3:30 Booster Club Track @ ES
Apr. 15	3:00 Outdoor Learning Work Day	Apr. 28	KSHSAA State Solo/Sm Ensemble @ KWU
Apr. 16	5:30 CPTA Meeting	Apr. 30	7:00 5-12 Band Concert/Awards Night @ ES
Apr. 16	FFA Livestock/Floriculture	Apr. 30	FFA State Contests
Apr. 17	10:30 HS TR @ Russell		
Apr. 17	4:30 HS SB/BSB @ Marion		